

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

Claims 26-27, 33-37, and 39-48 were previously in the application. Please amend claim 26 and add new claims 49-50, as shown in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Claims 26-27, 33-37, and 39-50 are currently in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. – 25. (canceled)

26 (currently amended). A method of isolating or purifying one or more plasmids from a host cell comprising:

- a) providing a dry matrix or solid medium, wherein said dry matrix or solid medium further comprises:
 - i) a weak base;
 - ii) a chelating agent; and
 - iii) an anionic surfactant or an anionic detergent;
- b) contacting the matrix or solid medium with a sample comprising a host cell containing said plasmid or plasmids;
- c) releasing said one or more plasmids from said host cell and onto said matrix or solid medium; and
- [[c]]d) isolating all or a portion of said plasmid or plasmids from said matrix or solid medium.

27 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said matrix or solid medium protects against degradation of said plasmid or plasmids.

28. – 32. (canceled)

33 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said matrix or solid medium comprises a polymeric matrix or solid medium.

34 (previously presented). The method of claim 33, wherein the polymeric matrix or solid medium comprises a cellulose-based matrix.

35 (previously presented). The method of claim 33, wherein the polymeric matrix or solid medium comprises a micromesh synthetic polymer matrix.

36 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the polymeric matrix or solid medium comprises a micromesh synthetic plastic matrix.

37 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said matrix or solid matrix is contacted with said one or more cells in solution.

38 (canceled).

39 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said matrix or solid medium further comprises uric acid or a urate salt.

40 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said host cells comprise eukaryotic cells.

41 (previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein said host cells comprise prokaryotic cells.

42 (previously presented). The method of claim 41, wherein said prokaryotic cells comprise bacterial cells.

43 (previously presented). A method of isolating or purifying one or more plasmids from a host cell comprising:

- a) contacting a solid medium with a sample comprising a host cell containing said plasmid, wherein the solid medium comprises:
 - i) a polymeric matrix comprising a cellulose-based matrix, a micromesh synthetic polymer matrix, or a micromesh synthetic plastic matrix;
 - ii) a weak base;
 - iii) a chelating agent; and
 - iv) an anionic surfactant or an anionic detergent;
- b) releasing the plasmid from the host cell and onto said medium; and
- c) isolating said plasmid from said medium.

44 (previously presented). The method of claim 43, wherein said solid medium further comprises uric acid or a urate salt.

45 (previously presented). A method of isolating or purifying one or more plasmids from a host cell comprising:

- a) contacting a solid medium with a sample comprising a host cell containing said plasmid, wherein said solid medium protects against degradation of said plasmid and wherein the solid medium comprises:
 - i) a polymeric matrix comprising a cellulose-based matrix, a micromesh synthetic polymer matrix, or a micromesh synthetic plastic matrix; and

- ii) a composition sorbed to the polymeric matrix, wherein the composition comprises:
 - a weak base;
 - a chelating agent; and
 - an anionic surfactant or an anionic detergent;
- b) lysing the host cell;
- c) releasing the plasmid from the host cell and onto said medium; and
- d) isolating said plasmid from said medium.

46 (previously presented). The method of claim 45, wherein said solid medium further comprises uric acid or a urate salt.

47 (previously presented). The method of claim 45, wherein said sample comprises host cells and wherein said host cells comprise eukaryotic cells.

48 (previously presented). The method of claim 45, wherein said sample comprises host cells and wherein said host cells comprise prokaryotic cells.

49 (new). The method of claim 43, wherein said sample comprises host cells and wherein said host cells comprise eukaryotic cells.

50 (new). The method of claim 43, wherein said sample comprises host cells and wherein said host cells comprise prokaryotic cells.